GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3174
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
DECLINE IN GROUND WATER LEVEL
C. SREENIVAASAN;RAMJI LAL SUMAN;SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA;SUSHILA SAROJ

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level is rapidly declining in many States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the fall registered on an average in ground water level in each State in the country during the last five years, year-wise;

(d) the present storage capacity of rain and river water in each State, separately;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any National Ground Water Conservation Policy; and

(f) if so, the extent to which it has been successful in recharging water level?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) The long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in thelevel of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 meters (1981-2000) has been observed in these States are indicated in the attached Statement. Fall at the rate of 20 cm/year has been observed in certain parts of the country in different States on an average.

(d) India receives an average annual precipitation of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which includes rainfall andsnow. Out of this, 3,000 BCM occurs during the monsoon. The average annual flow in various rivers of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. Out of this, utilizable flow by conventional methods is estimated at 690 BCM. In addition, about 200 to 250 BCM can be utilised through interbasin water transfer from the surplus river basins to the deficit river basins.

A live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created by construction of large dams and medium projects upto 1995. Projects to add an additional capacity of about 75 BCMare under construction and 132 BCMare under planning. It has also been estimated that about 24 BCMof rain water is stored in 3.5 lakh minor irrigation tanks. Further, 432 BCM of ground water is replenishableout of which, 154 BCM is being used.

Government of India is also promoting rainwater harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting under various schemes. An assessment of the total quantity of rain water harvested through these means is not made.

(e) & (f) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. However, various programmes of the Central Government for water conservation and augmenting ground water resources are indicated below:-

(i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union
Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

(iv) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme on Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. Recharging wells and rain water harvesting are integral part of this scheme. The results of the scheme have been found to be very encouraging.

(v) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)

(vi) Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Project.

(vii) Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR)

(viii) Watershed Development Project for control of shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA) in North-Eastern India.

(ix) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

(x) Desert Development Programme (DDP)

(xi) Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP)

These programmes are implemented nation-wide.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3174 REGARDING DECLINE IN GROUND WATER LEVEL TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2001.

NAME OF THE STATE/DISTRICT HAVING POCKETS WITH FALL IN GROUND WATER LEVEL OF MORE THAN 4 METRE (1981-2000)

STATE	FALL IN WATER LEVEL
ANDHRA PRADESH	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahaboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddy, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.
BIHAR (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhumi
CHHATTISGARH	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi.
GUJARAT	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskanta, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar.
HARYANA	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurushetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonepat, Yamunanagar.
KARNATAKA	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bedar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kopal, Tumkur, Uttar Kanada.
MADHYA PRADESH	Bhiwani, Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chindwara, Damoh, Datia, Devas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisan, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
MAHARASHTRA	Ahmadnagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nasik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhaddara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jaina, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangali, Sindhudurg, Thanesatara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal, Buldhana, Algaon, Satara
ORISSA	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jaipur, Jaipur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nawapada, Nowrangpur, Sundargarh, Suvarnapur.
PUNJAB	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Fatehgarh, Ferozpur, Jalandhar, Kapurtala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.
RAJASTHAN	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Durgapur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalwar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajasmand, Sikar, Udaipur
TAMIL NADU	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pondicherry, Pudukkottal, Sivaganga, Tanjavur, Theni, Tiruneivell, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamali, Tiruvarur, Tutocorin .
UTTAR PRADESH (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Badaun, Bijnor, Bulandashar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Rai bareli, Sharanpur, Unnao.
WEST BENGAL	Bankura, Barddhaman, Medinapur, N-24 Parganas,

Purulia.